## **ABSTRACT**

A communication system can utilize a STANAG 5066 profile and include a data rate link mechanism. The data rate link mechanism can reside in a linking layer, such as, a subnetwork management sublayer according to the STANAG 5066 application. The mechanism allows data rate change functions of HF messages to increase throughput upon link establishment. Link quality can be determined by LQA signals generated according to MIL-STD-188-141B profiles.